

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONFERENCE
OF THE NAACP, *et al.*,

and comprehensive disposition of the causes of action on the court's docket.” *United States v. Georgia Pac. Corp.*, 562 F.2d 294, 296 (4th Cir. 1977) (citing *Landis*, 299 U.S. at 254–55).

Here, the balance of factors weighs in favor of a stay. In addition to the risks of needlessly expending tremendous resources of time and effort of this Court, counsel, and litigants, the Court is very concerned that “[c]ourt orders affecting elections, especially conflicting orders, can themselves result in voter confusion and consequent incentive to remain away from the polls.” *Purcell v. Gonzales*, 549 U.S. 1, 4–5 (2006). North Carolina’s voter ID requirements have already been subject to extensive judicial intervention at both the federal and state levels, occasionally resulting in conflicting orders. The potential risks of adding to such confusion by a second trial, if such becomes necessary, likewise favors a stay.

These risks far outweigh the potential prejudice to all litigants. While the Court is mindful that parties have been preparing for trial, there is no reason that such preparation must go to waste. Staying this case does not reopen discovery, require additional litigation, or require the parties to change litigation strategies.

While the Court has considered the positions of the parties as outlined in their respective filings, this Order is entered pursuant to the inherent power of this Court to manage its docket and enter orders that are not only in the interest of the litigants but in such a case as this one, the public interest as well.

For these reasons, the Court enters the following:

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this case is **STAYED**, including the trial scheduled to begin January 24, 2022, pending the resolution of the grant of certiorari by the U. S. Supreme Court or until further Order of this Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants' Motion to Stay, Continue the Trial, or Allow Permissive Intervention, is **DENIED AS MOOT**, (ECF No. 192.)

This, the 30th day of December 2021.

/s/ Loretta C. Biggs
United States District Judge